

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
November 18, 2005
150 North 18th Avenue, Suite 540
Conference Room 540-A**

Members Present

Kay Lewis, Committee, Chair Mary Briden
Jerry Stein Bill White
Brian Smith
Gary Smith
Gary Woods
Orlando Alcorido, Jr.

Members Absent

Marilyn Price
Donald Kenneth Uhless
Jim Critchley

I. CALL TO ORDER

Education Committee meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

II. DISCUSS/AMEND AND APPROVE AGENDA

Motion was made by Kay Lewis and seconded by Brian Smith to approve the agenda of November 18, 2005 with one amendment. Remove agenda item VI.C.

Motion carried

III. DISCUSS/AMEND and APPROVE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2004

A motion was made by Brian Smith and seconded by Mary Briden to approve the minutes with the following corrections. Page two, V., second sentence should read, "During this time he also visited and assessed the Phoenix College EMT Programs."

Motion Carried

IV. REPORTS

A. Report from Bureau of Emergency Medical Services

Michelle Johnston reported that the Learning Management System was awarded. A meeting will be scheduled to discuss the different types of courses that can be used to provide online CEUs for medics statewide. It was reported that the Bureau would like to keep this service free of charge to everyone, funded through grant monies. It is anticipated to begin the first classes within the next six months.

A question arose as to whether these courses will be available for all levels of EMT certification and if partial courses will be EMS refresher courses. It was suggested to have this topic tabled for the next Education Committee meeting for an update.

Item: EMS refresher courses available through E-Learning

Who: Michelle Johnston

When: February 17, 2006

B. Chairman's Report

No report was given.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Action on the review of Education Committee bylaws

The committee was asked to review the bylaws and to provide any comments, suggestions, or deletions. It was reported that any changes would have to go through EMS Council.

A motion was made by Gary Smith and seconded by Bill White to accept the bylaws with no suggestions or deletions.

Motion carried

B. Discussion and Action on selection of a Vice Chair

The committee was asked to select a Vice Chair for the Education Committee. It was reported that the nominee does not need to be a member on the EMS Council since the bylaws do not mention membership on the EMS Council as a requirement. The Committee did not nominate anyone for Vice Chair.

Item: Select a Vice chair

Who: Education Committee

When: February 17, 2006

C. Discussion and Action on template for assessing training program effectiveness (BLS and ALS)

Michelle Johnston reported that the Bureau has not begun the process of the training program effectiveness.

D. Discussion and Action on template for assessing training programs during skills evaluation process and procedure

Michelle Johnston reported that the Bureau has begun a new process of on site visits for practical exams across the state. The Bureau created a new form which is based directly from the National Registry Booklet on how to conduct the skills exam for National Registry.

It was reported that the course notification form has been adjusted and is posted on the BEMS website for viewing. In addition, a letter will be mailed explaining the intention of the form. A date, time, and location has been added for the practical skills section of the courses. The Bureau does plan to attend the practical skills courses without giving a notice of their presence. However, it does not mean that the Bureau needs to be present in order for the skills exam to take place.

Discussion arose that in the past, the Bureau would issue a 24 hour notification of their presence. It was suggested that the Bureau notify their presence within a minimum of 24 hours of their presence prior to their arrival.

A motion was made by Jerry Stein and seconded by Gary Woods to have the Bureau give a minimum of 24 hours notice for training audits.

A question arose as to why the Bureau believes it is necessary to be present and show up unannounced at the practical skills exam.

It was reported that the intention is to improve the process and enforce that proper measures are being taken.

It was mentioned that spot checks could be considered as an insult. Another comment was made that through personal experience, an unannounced presence only made it a more difficult process of having to run around and cater to the needs of the Bureau. This comment transformed into the question as to whether the Bureau expects to be shown particular files and so forth. The point was mentioned that a 24 hour notice would be most appreciated and best received.

A comment was made that it is appropriate for ADHS to have unannounced visits at the proctor test sites. It was recommended that if the Bureau is visiting on an unannounced occasion to have a structured outline or express what the Bureau is looking for on their visit.

Michelle Johnston reported that the purpose of this task is to simply be a “fly on the wall”, and not to intrude or be disruptive. If further action does need to take place, a discussion will take place well after the exam or with a follow up meeting. The Bureau does recognize that a majority of the programs do conduct the exams correctly and that there would be no need for a BEMS employee to be fully involved during the process of an exam.

A question arose as to when this process would begin to take place. It was reported that the process has already begun on a small scale in some parts of the state. Various regions have started this process; however it will be fully enforced within the next few months.

Motion carried

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Action on review and consideration of training program curricula for I-qualified to P program

It was reported that Arizona has about 40 I's that are not qualified 85I's, but would like to be paramedics without having to go through the entire paramedic program.

Discussion ensued concerning qualifications to enter an I-to-P program.

Sarah Harpring reported that in order for such a change to take place that a rule change would need to occur, since the current rules do not allow a student who has completed this bridge course to apply and gain certification as an EMT Paramedic. Sara reported that we do not have exempt rulemaking authority for this rulemaking.

A question arose as to whether this could be done under exempt rule making. Sarah reported that we do not have exempt rulemaking authority. Meaning that at a minimum it could take nine months or longer depending on the controversial of the subject, and stakeholder involvement is needed in order to make sure we have consensus within the community to make sure we can move forward successfully.

A motion was made by Jerry Stein and seconded by Gary Smith to accept the curriculum designed for I99 to Paramedic.

It was suggested to amend the motion to include that I99 be defined as those who have successfully completed the I-EMT/99 curriculum.

Motion carried

A motion to develop a requirement for student selection to the program was made by Gary Woods and seconded by Bill White.

Discussion arose on the issue of clarifying as to whether an I99 has maintained their certification and specify their number of years of active service.

It was reported that I 99's who have successfully completed and have current certification in Arizona are acceptable to partake in the program. Out of state I 99's should be processed as current out of state individuals who are required to complete a statewide standardized

curriculum in order to retain certification. Initial certification can be issued for 6 months, which is a Basic EMT certification card.

Motion carried

A comment was made that it unjust for I99s who took the bridge course be excluded from the program.

A recommendation to develop a task force to develop the curriculum for the program was suggested. The task force consists of Larry Leforte, Michelle Johnston, Sarah Harpring, Jerry Stein, and Brian Smith.

VII. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

It was reported that the College of Business, Interior Design, and Engineer of Arizona State University is conducting a study on emergency medical services. The research began in August of 2005. Bloom reported he was asked to speak on the culture of EMS for the research project. The research committee has a deadline of January 15, 2006, to report to the public on what they have discovered in their research.

VIII. MEMBERS' EDUCATIONAL and INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

No report was given.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING – February 17, 2006

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Bill White and seconded by Brian Smith.

Minutes approved on February 17, 2006